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control. Professor Kales' examination includes the initiative, referendum and recall, upon which his comments are penetrating and judicious.

The work throughout displays exceptional powers of political insight and constitutional discernment.

HENRY J. FORD.

The Americans in the Philippines. BY JAMES A. LE ROY with an introduction by William Howard Taft. (Boston and New York: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1914. 2 volumes. Pp. xi, 424, 350.)

A pathetic interest attaches to this work in that it represents all that the author was able to complete of the history he had planned, before he died of an illness contracted during his research. A graduate of the University of Michigan he went to the Philippines with the second Philippine commission as secretary to Commissioner Worcester. He devoted himself to study of the place and of the people, and learned something of the local dialects. He produced a number of magazine articles on Philippine conditions and also a volume entitled "Philippine Life in Town and County" which is now in its third edition. He planned a history for which he assiduously collected materials, but in the midst of his labors tuberculosis developed and he had to leave the Islands. Eventually he obtained the position of United States Consul at Durango, Mexico, and there he wrote all of his history that he lived to complete. Voluminous as is that portion, it comprises only about one-half of the work as he had planned it; but it covers the history of the Islands under Spanish rule and tells the story of the American occupation and of the conflict with the native Philippine government. The narrative ends with an account of the situation that confronted the American administrators in setting about the task of organizing civil government, after the capture of Aguinaldo.

Although it appears that the author regarded the matter contained in the two volumes published as preliminary to his main purpose, and the narrative ends just when he has reached the point when he could speak from personal knowledge and experience, yet he has produced a work of great value. Much as it is to be deplored that he did not live to finish the work as he had planned, the period he was able to cover is just that of which a full and authoritative account was most needed. Material for a history of American rule, from the period in which civil government was established, is abundant and readily accessible. There is more pressing

need for a complete and authentic account of American relations with the Filipino leaders at the outset and of the circumstances that led on to a war that cost the United States over two hundred million dollars. This account Mr. Le Roy's history supplies. He has taken great pains to collect all the facts and to make a fair and intelligent presentation of them. Mr. Le Roy's own conclusions may at times seem open to question, but he makes such a complete statement of the case that the reader is in a position to reach an independent judgment. Mr. Le Roy's own opinions reveal prejudices and limitations that impair the value of his criticism. For instance he mentions that the constitution framed by the Filipinos at Malolos provided for the election of the president by the congress, "thus violating at the very outset the principle of mutual independence of the three branches of government." Thus the Filipino constitution is condemned off-hand because it collides with Mr. Le Roy's traditional attachment to the principle of the separation of the powers. But in Switzerland the president is elected by congress, and so it cannot be said that the Filipinos proposed any remarkable or absurd arrangement. However, it is a fact of our own constitutional history that the original design was to provide for the election of the president by congress and that this design was abandoned not on grounds of constitutional propriety, but as an incident of the compromises made to placate the small states. So far from being a blunder, there may be reasons for holding that the Filipino plan was a sensible arrangement and that to force upon them an imitation of the system of presidential election that has grown up in the United States more by accident than intention will doom them to revolutionary turmoil.

The opinion is prevalent among Europeans in the East that the costly war waged by the United States in the Philippines was quite unnecessary and could have been readily avoided; that if the United States had been willing and able to recognize and use native authority, little practical difficulty would have been experienced in controlling governmental policy. Mr. Le Roy's minute account of the events leading up to the outbreak of hostilities tends to confirm this opinion while illuminating the causes why the opportunity was not utilized. The root of trouble was the inexperience of American statesmanship with such a situation and consequent inability to frame a rational policy. The result was that we drifted into treatment of our Filipino allies that constitutes the most mortifying chapter of our national history; but it is one that should be carefully studied to avoid like incompetence and mismanagement in future emergencies.

HENRY J. FORD.